

THE RUTHERFORD *Report*

THE NEWSLETTER OF SECOND DISTRICT SUPERVISOR JANICE RUTHERFORD



Winter 2018

Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Rancho Cucamonga Service Council connects local service groups so they can find new volunteers and expand their efforts to support the community. Learn more at www.RCServiceCouncil.org.

Council Brings Groups Together to Serve

The City of Rancho Cucamonga is very fortunate to have many service clubs, nonprofits, churches and other groups working to better the community.

And the Rancho Cucamonga Service Council (often referred to as the RC Service Council) brings these local do-gooders together to coordinate and collaborate on projects, so they can combine their resources and magnify their efforts to support the city and its residents.

Caryn Payzant helped organize the group in 2012.

She is the Director of Public Relations for the Rancho Cucamonga Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which regularly organizes service projects in the community, and she was aware of many other groups doing similar work.

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Mountain Business Sparked by Fire Threat

Scores of tree removal contractors from throughout the west poured into the San Bernardino Mountains after the Old Fire in 2003 as officials began allocating millions in federal grants to remove millions of dead and dying trees from the mountaintop.

"We had a huge bark beetle epidemic. The hillsides were brown, and it looked like two-thirds of the trees were dead," lifelong Lake Arrowhead resident Vic Leader said. "I figured if someone was going to cut them down, it might as well be me since I grew up here."

And thus began Arrowhead Enterprises, Inc.— a forest thinning, logging, hauling, and custom milling company.

The first thing Vic did was purchase a dump truck so he could get in on the lucrative business of hauling all of the limbs and logs being generated by tree removal companies. Then he bought a logging trucks, a Log Skidder, whole Tree chippers on tracks, and more.

"Every job I got, I would keep on buying more equipment to do the work," he said.

When the urgency to remove dead and dying trees from the mountain subsided, Leader began removing trees and performing tree maintenance for individuals in the mountains. He also secured a contract to take part in the San Bernardino County Fire Department's curbside

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Sheriff's Volunteers An Eclectic Group

In the early 1990s, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department created its Volunteer Forces Unit to better manage the army of residents who contribute their time and energy to help make their communities safer.

Today, the unit oversees more than 2,000 volunteers who annually donate more than 300,000 hours of their time to support the Department.

"We have one of the largest volunteer units in California, and we have one of the largest volunteer search and rescue units in the nation," Sgt. James Mahan said.

With more than 600 members, the Sheriff's Citizens on Patrol program accounts for the bulk of the Department's volunteers. It began countywide in 1986. COP members are typically retirees who want to give back to their community.

By shuttling vehicles in need of maintenance to the garage, directing traffic at accident scenes and performing other tasks, these volunteers save the Sheriff's Department tens of thousands of dollars annually and they help keep deputies in the field rather than handling tedious tasks.

Citizens on Patrol volunteers also cruise through neighborhoods searching for suspicious activity and conduct home vacation checks for residents concerned about their properties while they are away.

Search and rescue comprises the next largest component of Volunteer Forces with more than 500 volunteers. These volunteers regularly trek into the forest and desert at all hours of the day on foot and horseback in search of lost and injured hikers. They often work hand in hand with the Sheriff's Aviation Division to hoist hikers out of precarious situations.

The volunteers—most of whom are outdoor enthusiasts—work on various teams established throughout the county. The Search and Rescue Teams include West Valley, Rim of the World, San Bernardino Mountain, Bear Valley, San Gorgonio, Wrightwood Phelan, and Valley of the Falls. The Sheriff's Department also has a Cave and Technical Rescue Team.

Last year, the teams conducted 175 search and rescue operations and helped save 260 people.

Explorer Scouts make up the third largest branch of the unit. These young people between 14 and 21 years old assist at community events and perform clerical tasks at the

various sheriff's stations around the county. Most of them are interested in becoming deputies, and being an Explorer Scout gives them a glimpse behind the scenes of the profession, Mahan said.

Reserve deputies are the smallest contingent of Volunteer Forces with about 90 members, but they have to undergo more training than other volunteers and must pass the same physical and psychological tests that deputies undergo before being hired.

"They put themselves through almost a full academy while working full-time jobs in order to become reserve sheriff's deputies," Mahan said. "They have this heart and soul drive to help out."

There are three levels for reserve deputies that dictate what tasks they are allowed to perform.

Level three reserve deputies are restricted to specialty units such as Aviation, and level two reserve deputies ride on patrols but only with a partner.

"Level one reserves can do anything a deputy sheriff can do, but they don't get paid for it," Mahan said.

They are also subject to the same perils as law enforcement officers.

In 1960, Reserve Deputy Billie Heckle from Fontana was shot and killed while investigating a car theft in Bloomington. He is the only San Bernardino County Sheriff's reserve deputy killed in the line of duty.

Some are looking to break the monotony of their desk jobs, while others are retired deputies who yearn to be back on the beat.

"I call it separation anxiety," Mahan joked.

The Sheriff's Department is also served by a squadron of more than 600 "support volunteers" which includes clergymen, paramedics, doctors, pilots, local business leaders, and other professionals from throughout the County.

Learn more about the Sheriff's Volunteer Forces Unit at <http://cms.sbcounty.gov/sheriff/Divisions/VolunteerForces.aspx>.

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chipping program, which provides free curbside chipping to encourage residents to make their homes fire safe.

Still, Leader knew his business needed to offer more if it was going to survive.

“We can’t sustain logging contractors up here,” he said. “There’s just not enough work.”

So he purchased sawmills and a kiln to create usable wood slabs and logs that could be transformed into beautiful headboards, fireplace mantles, dining room tables, benches and more.

“It’s very gratifying when you take a small or large log and then turn that into something that someone can put into their home,” Leader said.

Lake Gregory Dam Repair Plans Approved

The State Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) has approved plans to repair the Lake Gregory dam so the County can now seek bids for the project.

A contractor is expected to be selected and approved in the first quarter of 2018, and construction is expected to begin in late spring or early summer 2018 with estimated completion in late 2019.

Safety improvements to the 80-year-old dam are being made to meet current earthquake safety standards. The DSOD considers Lake Gregory Dam to be a “high hazard dam” due to the possibility that seismic activity may result in a breach.

Arrowhead Enterprises operated on land leased from the County behind Mountains Community Hospital until it recently moved to a nearly 5-acre property in Running Springs. Leader hopes to usher in the next phase of his business once his storefront opens next year.

“I love woodworking, and I can’t wait for this part of the business to start paying my bills,” he said. “I have excellent visibility at the new location. It’s a place where we can really dig in and do something.”

Visit <https://www.aewoodproducts.com> to learn more about Arrowhead Enterprises.

A breach would endanger people, wildlife and would have serious economic consequences for the mountain communities.

Every effort is being made to minimize public inconvenience during the estimated 18-month project. The lake’s beaches and swimming areas will remain open during construction and continue to serve as major attractions to tourists and the local community.

For more information on the project, visit the project website at www.abetterlakegregory.org. You can also sign up for regular email updates on the project.

2nd District Trivia

Last Issue’s Answer: San Bernardino County’s first hometown newspaper was the *San Bernardino Herald*. It started in 1860 and folded the following year.

Question: A hydro-electric plant was constructed in what Second District community in the 1890s?

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“You have different goals in mind, but the one common denominator that brings everyone together is service,” she said.

Caryn contacted the Rancho Cucamonga Community Services Department to see if she could get the city’s help creating the group.

Having the city involved gave the effort legitimacy and helped convince groups the Service Council was worth joining.

“They’ve proven to be invaluable partners,” Caryn said.

The city provides a room at the RC Family Resource Center for the group’s regular meetings, which occur January through October from 3 to 4:30 p.m. on the last Thursday of the month.

The group goes dark November through December because of the holidays.

During the meetings, representatives from various groups and organizations talk about projects they are working on so they can find extra volunteers to help or groups to partner with.

“People walk away from those meetings feeling empowered,” Caryn said.

The city also provides a venue for the annual RC Service Fair where community groups can set up booths to share information about their programs and to find volunteers to support their efforts.

“A lot of organizations don’t have a lot of money to tell people about their organization and the services they provide,” Caryn said.

“The RC Service Fair provides a venue for them to do that for a very nominal fee.”

Additionally, the city provides a location for the RC Service Council’s annual Service Awards Dinner giving groups an opportunity to publicly recognize and thank their key volunteers.

“There are so many people who go about giving, and they don’t want anything in return,” Caryn said. “This is an opportunity to thank them.”

Lean more about the RC Service Council by visiting www.RCservicecouncil.org.

Upcoming Events

January 2	Registration begins for Upland’s Biggest Loser Challenge. Compete with other individuals or teams to see who can lose the most weight. Call Upland Recreation and Community Services at (909) 931-4280 for information.
January 26	The Upland Chamber of Commerce will host the Taste of the I.E., featuring food and drinks from local restaurants, from 6 to 10 p.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 555 W. Foothill Boulevard, Claremont. Tickets cost \$75. Contact the Upland Chamber of Commerce at (909) 204-4465 for more information.
January 27	The MainStreet Theatre Company will present “Oh Freedom,” the story of the underground railroad, at 4 p.m. at the Lewis Family Playhouse in Rancho Cucamonga. Call (909) 477-2752 for information about this and other performances of “Oh Freedom.”
February 1	Upland High School Theatre will present Shakespeare’s “Twelfth Night” at 7 p.m. in the Highlander Auditorium. Call (909) 949-7800 ext. 138 for information about this and other performances of “Twelfth Night.”
February 7	The Crestline Branch Library will host Storytime for Children with a theme tied to Black History Month from 4 to 5 p.m. The library is located at 24105 Lake Gregory Drive in Crestline.
February 22	The City of Rancho Cucamonga will host the State of the City Address from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Lewis Family Playhouse. Call (909) 477-2752 for ticket information.
March 6	The Lewis Library and Technology Center will host a Celebration of Dr. Seuss from 4 to 7 p.m. The library is located at 8437 Sierra Avenue in Fontana.
March 27	The Lake Arrowhead Branch Library will host Storytime for Children with a theme tied to Women’s History Month from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. The library is located at 27235 Hwy. 189 in Blue Jay.

Dates and times are subject to change without notice. Please contact Supervisor Rutherford’s office at (909) 387-4833 if you have any questions or suggestions for the Events Calendar. You can view information about more local events on Supervisor Rutherford’s home page at www.sbcounty.gov/rutherford.